

REMARKS

Further to Applicants' prior response of July 29, 2004, enclosed herewith is a 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration of Mr. Teruo Kubota, one of the present inventors.

In Mr. Kubota's accompanying 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration, he clearly sets forth distinctions between the present invention and the disclosures of each of Yamashita US '516 and Yamashita US '501. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review Mr. Kubota's accompanying Declaration at this time, in as much as it provides clear evidence of distinctions between the present invention and the cited art of Yamashita et al. US '516 and US '501.

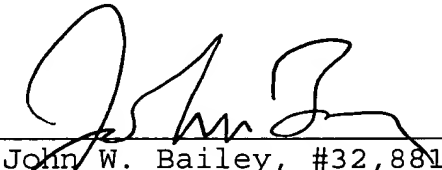
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Bailey (Reg. No. 32,881) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By   
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JWB:enm  
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Attachment: 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration of Mr. Teruo Kubota